

UpTime

The newsletter for: RS-DOS, OS9, OSK, CoCos, and 68xxx's.

Volume 1, Issue 8

April 1993

Editorial

Welcome again to our 8th issue of *UpTime*! There have been many goings on in the CoCo Community, first CoCoPro! had announced their closing and now I am sad to report what many of you might already know: Falsoft has announced that the May 1993 issue of Rainbow will be the final installment. The Rainbow has been with us for over 10 years, starting first as an informal publication much like UpTime, and growing as the CoCo Community grew. I am happy to say that I have had many great experiences with The Rainbow, and it can be said that the CoCo's well being is a direct result of the publication: if it were not for the magazine and its central point of attention, the CoCo would certainly not have as many supporters as it does today.

Where to go now? Well, I have heard a lot of talk and been asked a lot of questions about where the

In this issue...

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The end of of the a legacy...

CoCo is going to go now—in fact, I have mentioned something about the CoCo's future in just about every column. And it basically boils down to this: the CoCo is going to go exactly where its supporters want it to go. The CoCo (and its vendor's support) will continue as long as there are active supporters who want to learn more and purchase more software. As I have mentioned before, we started UpTime just to have a central point for current information about the CoCo: where the next 'fests are, what products are coming out, and what vendors are offering. If you have any friends using their CoCos (and 68xxx machines), let them know about UpTime. Best of luck to our new advertisers, and I encourage anyone with some creative ideas to advertise in UpTIme; write for more information.

- Jordan Tsvetkoff

The Tandy Hi-Res Interface with RS-DOS

Since the article about the Hi-Res Interface code last month, I have decoded the OS-9 Level II routine. Microware did not use the timer interrupt but "cheated" by not keeping a constant number of cycles per count loop. This allowed a loop of 9 clock cycles for counts from 1 to 255 with more code added after the 255th count.

This would result in periodic glitches if the routine was used in a project like William Barden's CoCo oscilloscope for example. However, it is fine for reading joystick movements and the savings in clock cycles obviates the need for IRQ processing.

-Robert Gault

Secretary, CCOG Color Computer Owners Group of Detroit

UpTime

Editor: Jordan Tsvetkoff

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Purpose: To provide information about products, services, and activities relating to the Tandy Color Computer and OSK/68xxx-based machines.

Submissions: Submissions of any form can be sent to *UpTime Submissions*, **JWT**Enterprises, 5755 Lockwood Blvd., Youngstown, OH, 44512. Please note that article/editorial submissions are preferred, although short program listings will also be considered. If reimbusment is requested, please indicate in writing with the initial submission.

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Who Gets the Credit?

Have you ever gotten a neat little program (or maybe a large program) and nowhere within the program or REMmed lines were there any indication of who wrote it or where it came from? Where did it go?

Well, sometimes programmers do not bother to put their names in a program. More often then not, some turkey has removed it. Maybe they felt like they stole it and want to cover the evidence. Just how juvenile can you get?

When you get a nice public domain item, it is because someone not only enjoyed putting it together but is willing to share their ingenuity and give it out freely for you enjoyment. They do not ask a penny for your use. If Joe Smith from Dirtsville, Ohio put together a neat

Credit cont'd, page 8

upcomma event/

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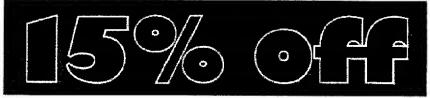
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CoCo Graphics

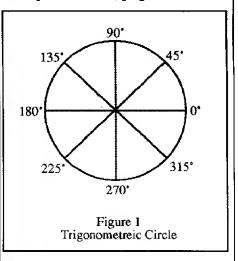
Well, I hope you have figured out how the *cos* and *sin* functions are used to produce circles, arches, and ellipses. In this issue, I will explain how to draw specific angles using the *cos* and *sin* functions. This article assumes you are using a PMODE screen. You could adapt this program to work on the SET/RESET screen if you needed to, but you would also need to use the SET/RESET screen line drawing program I presented in my first article.

Drawing angles is complicated to explain, but is relatively easy to do. If you recall from my last article, we used *cos* and *sin* to find points on a circle. To draw an angle, all we

have to do is find the degrees that we want on the circle and draw two rays from the center of the circle to the two points to form the angle.

Let's say we wanted to draw a 90° angle. First decide where the angle is going to be placed on the screen in terms of the x and y coordinates. Note that the x and y coordinates will be the vertex (center point) of the angle, and cos and sin are trigonometric functions so we will be using trigonometric measurements. Not only could we use the 0° and 90° measurements to get a 90° angle, but we could also use 180° and 270°, or 90° and 180°, or 135° and 255°, etc. Notice that if you subtract the smallest degree from the largest we always get 90°. The only time that this does not work is when the 0° is included within the angle. If you look at Figure 1, you will notice that using 315° and 45° will give us a 90° angle but 315 minus 45 does not equal 90. Since the 0° is included in the angle, we must do the check in a

Graphics cont'd, page 4



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Graphics cont'd from page 3

different way. First subtract the larger measure from 360. In this case it will be 360 minus 315, which is 45. Now we add the smaller measure to the result to get 90° (45+45).

When you have finished deciding what degrees you are going to use, make the smaller value D1 and the larger value D2. Then substitute all of the information into the following subroutine:

```
1000 REM D1=(smaller degree)
1001 REM D2=(larger degree)
1002 REM X=(x coordinate of
vertex)
1003 REM Y=(y coordinate of
vertex)
1004 REM L=(length of ray;
1 - 255)
```

```
1006 V=57.29577951
1008 A=L*COS(90+D1/V)+X
1010 B=-(L)*SIN(90+D1/V)+Y
1012 C=L*COS(90+D2/V)+X
1014 D=-(L)*SIN(90+D2/V)+Y
1016 LINE (X,Y) - (A,B), PSET
1018 LINE (X,Y) -
(C,D), PSET: RETURN
```

Before calling the routine, make sure you assign a value to DI. D2, X, Y, and L as explained in the REMlines of the routine, Then, when you need an angle to be drawn, use a GOSUB 1000 to call the routine.

The routine works almost the same way it did in my last article, only it finds two specific point on the circle instead of all of the points on the circle. Notice that the length of the lines drawn (variable L) is actually the radius of the circle. The larger the

circle, the longer the lines in the angle will be.

Well, that is it for this issue. Next time I will explain how to do two and three dimensional rotations using the cos and sin functions and some fancy animation techniques.

- David McNally



"They bought me a laptop computer...and took my desk away!"

UPGRADE National Diskletter! From: Mid Iowa & Country CoCo We are a national reachout!

Our "UPGRADE" newsletter mailed on Disk, has become a real hit with MAX Ill graphics accompaning articles. The articles from RSDOS Basic programming, and hardware, to OS-9 by James Jones of Microware; dump to screen (TV, Mono, or RGB) or printer. Sometimes with the news before the big mags, and editorials you will not see in the commercial magazine. With many user tips and ideas.

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We also have a "Christian Software Sub-chapter". Which simply offers

Christian oriented software and listings for those interested.

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Be in touch for Middle America's Fest '93 in Des Moines, IA.

Have you noticed the 3rd part market producers (i.e. support) dropping like flies in late fall? The shrinking Raintow? The support of your CoCo is rapidly being left up to YOU! As third party decreases; belonging to a CoCo group is your only support. Radio Shack and a long list of magazines have folded it in. If one more magazine folds,,, where will you look next month?

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News Release! News Release! News Release!

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Who: Glenside CoCo Club of Illinois

What:: Second Annual "last" Chicago CoCoFest!

When: May 1st and 2nd, 1993

Where: Holiday Inn Elgin

(a Holidome recreation center) 345 West River Road (a city block from I-90 & Illinois 31S) Elgin, IL (18 minutes driving time from the

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ACT II

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Why: to provide vendor support to the CoCo community

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If you write assembly language software, you'll find The 6309 Book an indispensible reference guide. The 2nd Edition describes the new addressing modes, as well as the new instructions, of the HD63B09E. Our \$29.95 package includes the book. Native Mode DEBUG patches, a disassembler, and a new version of our XSM 6809/6309 assembler. XSM runs under OS9, but can output RS-DOS, OS9, or Motorola S-Records. XSM uses "FAR pointer" techniques to allow up to 64K of program symbols. NOTE: XSM DOES NOT INCLUDE OS9 EQUATE FILES, BUT CAN USE HEADERS PROVIDED WITH THE OS9 LEVEL: ASSEMBLER OR LEVEL 2 DEVELOPER'S KIT.

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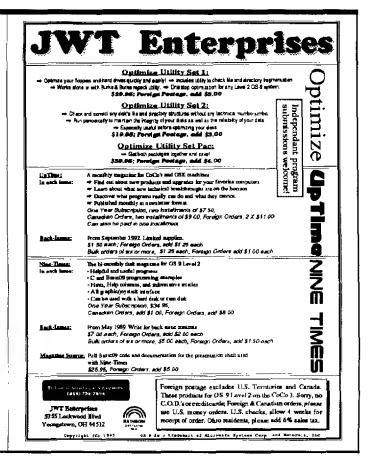
DISK FIX BAS: 202 LINE(66,80)-(66+133,90),PSET 390 A\$ (62) = "BR3E2H2BR2BD4 395 A\$ (63) = "BR3BU3UR3D2LBDDBR .BF 5 REM THE DISK FIXER 205 DRAW"BM70,150":COLOR 0,0:A\$= 400 A\$ (64) = "BR3NR3U3ER2BD2LDRUD2 405 A\$ (65) = "BR3U3ERFDNL3D2 "UPDATING FAT TABLE...":GOSUB 54 10 REM BY DAVID MCNALLY 15 REM COPYRIGHT 1992 0:COLOR 1.0:DRAW"BM18,150":A\$="P 410 A\$ (66) = "BR3U4R2FGNL2FGL2BR3 ROCESS COMPLETE. CHECK ANOTHER? 415 A\$ (67) = "BR4REGLHU2ERFBD3 20 CLEAR 1000 420 A\$ (68) = "BR3U4R2FD2GL2BR3 25 DIM ER (34,18), GRAN (67), A\$ (90) (Y/N)":GOSUB 540 206 PP\$=INKEY\$:IF PP\$="" THEN 20 425 A\$ (69) = "BR3NR3U2NR2U2R3BD4 30 GOSUB 235:GOSUB 210 6 ELSE IF PP\$="Y" THEN GOTO 30 E 430 A\$ (70) = "BR3U2NR2U2R3BD4 32 GOSUB 600 35 PT=66:CT=0 LSE IF PP\$="N" THEN CLS:NEW ELSE 435 A\$ (71) = "BR3BU4BR3L2GD2FREULB 40 EXEC 44539 GOTO 206 R2BD2 42 COLOR 0,0:GOSUB 605:COLOR 1,0 208 GOTO 208 440 A\$ (72) = "BR3U4D2R3U2D4 45 GOSUB 700 210 PMODE 4,1:PCLS0:SCREEN 1,1 445 A\$ (73) = "BR3R2LU4NLRBD4 450 A\$ (74) -"BR3BUFREU3LR2BD4 215 LINE(66,80)-(66+133,90),PSET 50 REM FIND BAD SECTORS 55 POKE 234,2:POKE 235,0 455 A\$ (75) = "BR3U2RNF2NE2LU2BR3BD ,B 220 RETURN 60 FOR T1=0 TO 34 65 FOR T2=1 TO 18 225 LINE (PT, 80) - (PT, 90), PSET, BF 460 A\$ (76) = "BR3NR3U4BR3BD4 70 POKE 236,T1:POKE 237,T2 230 PT=PT+1:RETURN 465 A\$ (77)="BR3U4FRED4 235 PMODE 4,1:PCLS0:SCREEN 1,1 470 A\$ (78)="BR3U4F3DNU4 75 EXEC 55135 80 CT=CT+1:IF CT=5 THEN GOSUB 22 240 A\$(32) = "BR6 475 A\$ (79) = "BR2BUU2ERFD2GLNHBR 480 A\$ (80) = "BR3U4R2FGL2BR2BD2 245 A\$ (33) = "BR3UBU2NU3BD5 5:CT=085 IF PEEK (240) <> 0 THEN ER (T1, T2 250 A\$ (34) = "BR3BU2U2BR2D2BD2 485 A\$ (81) = "BR3BUU2ERFD2GNUNRLHB) **=**1 255 A\$(35) = "BU3BR4U4BR2D4URL4RU2 R3BD 490 A\$ (82) - "BR3U4R2FGL2RF2 90 NEXT T2 LR4BD3 495 A\$ (83) = "BR3R2EHLHER2BD4 95 NEXT T1 260 A\$ (36) = "BR3R3U2L3U2R3L2NUD5B 100 REM CONVERT TRACKS/SECTORS T RU6BRBD5 500 A\$ (84) = "BR3BU4R2LD4BR 505 A\$ (85) = "BR3NU4R3NU4 265 A\$ (37) = "BR3E4BL3DBR3BD2D O GRANUALS 510 A\$ (86) = "BR3BU4D3FRENU3BD 105 L=0 270 A\$ (38) = "BR3BU2R4L2D2H2R2U2BR 108 DRAW"BM70,150":A\$="UPDATING 515 A\$ (87) = "BR3NU4ERFNU4 FAT TABLE...":GOSUB 540 275 As(39) = "BR4BU3D2BD3520 A\$ (88) = "BR3UE2UDGHUDF2D 110 FOR T1=0 TO 34 280 A\$ (40) = "BR5HU2EBD4 525 A\$ (89) = "BR3BU4DFEUDGD2BR 115 IF T1=17 THEN T1=18:PT=PT+4: 285 A\$(41)="BR4EU2HBD4 530 A\$(90) = "BR3NR2UE2UL2BR2BD4"REM SKIP OVER DIRECTORY TRACK 290 A\$ (42) = "BR3BUE2GHF2HNUNDNLNR 535 RETURN 540 FORX=1TOLEN (A\$):Y=ASC (MID\$ (A BR2BD2 120 FOR T2=1 TO 9 \$, X, 1)):DRAWA\$(Y):NEXT:RETURN 125 IF ER (T1, T2) = 1 THEN GRAN (L) = 295 A\$ (43) = "BR3BU2R2LUD2BR1 300 A\$ (44) = "BR3DGEU 600 DRAW"BM50,5":A\$="COLOR COMPU TER DISK FIX V1.0":GOSUB 540 305 A\$(45)="BR3BU2R3BD2 130 NEXT T2 310 A\$ (46) = "BR3NRBR2 602 DRAW"BM35, 15": A\$="(C) 1992 C 135 L=L+1 140 FOR T3=10 TO 18 315 A\$(47) = "BR3UE2UBD4"OLOR COMPUTING SOFTWARE": GOSUB 5 145 IF ER (T1, T2)=1 THEN GRAN(L)= 320 A\$ (48) = "BR3U4R3D4L3BR3 40 604 DRAW"BM66,96":A\$="0% 325 A\$(49)="BR3NU4 100%":GOSUB 540 330 A\$ (50) = "BR3NR3U2R3U2NL3BD4 150 NEXT T3 605 DRAW"BM30,150":A\$="PRESS ANY 155 L=L+1 335 A\$ (51) = "BR3R3U2NL2U2NL3BD4"KEY TO START THE DISK FIX!": GOS 340 A\$ (52) = "BR3BU4D2R3U2D4 160 NEXT T1 UB 540 165 REM UPDATE FAT TABLE 345 A\$ (53) = "BR3R3U2L3U2R3BD4 350 A\$ (54) = "BR3NU2R3U2L3U2R3BD4 608 RETURN 170 G\$="" 355 A\$ (55) = "BR3BU4R3DGD2BR 700 POKE 234,2:POKE 235,0 175 FOR YY=0 TO 67 180 IF GRAN (YY) = 0 THEN G\$=G\$+CHR 360 A\$ (56) = "BR3NU4R3U2NL3U2NL3BD 702 POKE 236,17 704 FOR T=1 TO 18:POKE 237,T \$(&HFF) 185 IF GRAN (YY) = 1 THEN G\$=G\$+CHR 365 A\$(57)="BR3R3U2L3U2R3D2BD2 706 EXEC 55135 708 IF PEEK (240) =0 THEN NEXT T:R \$ (&HC9) 370 A\$ (58) = "BR3UBU2UBD4 ETURN ELSE GOTO 750 375 A\$ (59) = "BR3DGEUBU2NRBD2 190 NEXT YY 380 A\$(60)="BR5H2E2BD4 750 DRAW"BM70,150":A\$="DISK CAN 195 DSKI\$ 0,17,2,X\$,Y\$ 200 DSKO\$ 0,17,2,G\$,Y\$ 385 A\$ (61) = "BR3BUR3BU2L3BD3BR3 NOT BE FIXED!":GOSUB 540:EXEC 44 539:RUN

Disk Fix

Disk Fix is a simple utility program that will attempt to fix a disk that has I/O errors during the formatting process. To use the program, first try to reformat the disk that has an error onit. If it formats correctly, then you are all set. If an error occurs during the format, then load Disk Fix and type RUN. The computer will prompt you to insert the disk to be fixed. Insert the disk and press any key to start. The computer will then search through the disk keeping a record of all the locations that are bad. Then the FAT table will be updated so that the computer thinks the bad sectors are being used by a program; therefore, no attempt will be made to save data on the bad sectors of the disk. Note that this should be run before any files are placed on the disk.

Some things you should be aware of: a disk cannot be salvaged if the directory track is damaged, the program can not fix disks if they are formatted for 40 tracks or higher, and the *backup* command can not be used to copy the disk even after **Disk Fix** is used. If you want to copy the disk, you must use the copy command or autility program that bypasses disk errors during copying.

- Omo McNaly



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Bringing the best to the Color Computer!

Tandy's Little Wonder (the Color Computer) It started life as a simple terminal for farmers to use, but grew into an inexpensive yet powerful home computer. This book relates the history of the CoCo through the pages of various CoCo magazines and provides "survival" information (current vendors, publications, support, repairs, etc.) . Many longtime and knowledgeable CoCo advocates contributed- Alfredo Santos, Marty Goodman, Art Flexsor... to many to list here! SIZE; 5.5"x8.5", approx.. 160 pages. Softbound; \$20; Hardbound \$30 AVAILABLE MAY 1993! \$2.50 S&H (\$5 Canada/Foreign)

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Credit cont'd from page 2

routine, the least I can do is leave his name there as author for others, who may enjoy the program as well, to see. It is just a small thank you and having respect for your fellow man.

Can you ethically alter 'Public Domain' programs? About the only thing other authors and myself do expect is a little credit where credit is due. For example, two different CoCo groups chose to use one of my graphics for their club logos. That someone considered my work that worthwhile made me feel honored-except I really was not. One promptly removed my name from the graphic with never a mention of where it came from. The other went a step further. They made a couple of minor

changes and placed someone else's name as the graphic author! I will be a little nicer and not mention their names. Besides, weat MI&CC, had, the key word here is had, a user who put together a disk each month for our group. I began noticing there was no indication of who the authors were or where the programs were coming from. What is more, I began seeing his name on programs that he could not have written, just because he re-wrote some of the PRINT statements or renumbered some lines. What the heck, he was just a kid, and anyone with teenager knows they can sometimes be a little selfish and immature. We did ask him nicely to stop.

But can you change a program? Why not? Speaking

personally, of the many graphics and programs I placed into public domain, I give them out for the CoCo supporter's pleasure. And I fully expect them to be modified by anyone who can add or use them more to their benefit. I have modified quite a few myself. If the modification is significant, I will add under the author's names: modified by — and the date. Occasionally I have sent the updated version to the original author, and received nothing so far except positive comments.

- Terry Simons

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Let me first introduce myself. My name is Chris Dekker and I wrote some of the OS9 products CoCoPro! was selling. Now that CoCoPro! is no longer around, I have decided to market these products myself. I am talking about the following packages: Accounting level 2, Tools 3, and Quicklettter.

The main reason for this decision is that this is the easiest way to provide for customer service, upgrades, etc. If you have any questions, please call or write to the address below.

As part of the changes, all three packages have been upgraded:

- Accounting level 2 has not been substantially altered, but some wrinkles have been smoothed over
- Tools 3 now includes anti-virus software, an archiving program, two more utilities: alarm and append, and a version of cobbler that allows you to change modules in the bootfile—it also saves the shell and grfdrv files to the new disk.
- Quickletter now includes list and merge utilities, an envelope writer, and setup files for some popular printers. Some of the original modules have been changed to speed up or expand their functions.

New Products coming soon:

- Investing level 2 allows you to keep track of investments, calculate returns, track and analyze markets, etc.
- Level II graphics: a set of two disks containing a canvas program, printer drivers, font and pattern editors, a clipboard, programs that generate fractals from the julia and mandelbrot sets, and much more.

To receive one of the above mentioned upgrades send \$5.00 plus your name, address, and proof of purchase. Prices for the upgraded packages are still:

Accounting Level 2 \$34.95 Tools 3 \$29.95 Quickletter \$19.95

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5



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it will deliver hours of excitement. Will you become your world's greatest hero, or just another energy slave? Req 128K CoCo 3 and disk drive.

GrafExpress 2.0 is a complete graphics and music programming environment. From the beginner to the accomplished professional, you can use GrafExpress to create lightning tast arcade games, graphic applications and utilities, and windowing multimedia demonstrations! The GrafExpress package includes two incredible systems GrafExpress 16 works on all monitor types and offers support in 12 graphic resolutions (from 128x192 to 320x225). GrafExpress 256 offers 6 resoutions (from 128x192 to 160x225 on a composite monitor) in an astounding 256 colors! Ever see a CoCo do that before? Both systems include standard graphics commands (CIRCLE, FILL, etc.) that blow away the competition. For example, the BOX command peaks out at over 2 MegaPixels/second; that's 300 times faster than BASIC! 255 separate sprites of up to 100x100 pixels each are supported with window clipping and high-res pixel level collision checking. The B-octave/4-voice music synthesizer has independent envelope, waveform, and volume controls, a 7 + KHz sampling rate. and much more. Other features include text/graphics mixing, difterent font sizes, fast window copying and scrolling, picture save/load, easy implementation from both BASIC and assembly language, multiple screen animation, and support for 128K/512K, double speed, and the high-res loystick interface. The package also contains support programs that are worth the purchase price of GrafExpress alone! These include an introductory demo, a Dicture editor, a waveform editor, and an art program that supports 256 col ors! GrafExpress also comes with a 50 page manual that fully explains all of its incredible features. If you do any graphics programmind or simply want to see what

your little CoCo is capable of, GratExpress is a must! Req. 128K CoCo 3 and disk drive



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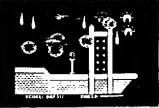


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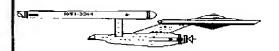
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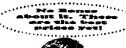
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The CoCo-C Compiler is a full featured K&R style integer compiler. specifically designed for RSDOS based systems. It has assembly language output, position independent code and can output ROM able code if desired. Added leatures allow you to mix C, assembly language and BASIC commands within your program!

Assembler

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